

**From:** b gates  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/3/02 7:46pm  
**Subject:** MICROSOFT SETTLEMENT

TO THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

We never felt there was any crime committed by Microsoft in the first place! What did they not want to do? They didn't want to share their system & their knowledge with their competitors???? That was the big criminal conspiracy??? Yes, they are an extremely large company; yes, all of their systems intermingle & co-mingle beautifully. Should Microsoft have stopped innovating & subsequently stopped growing? The other companies which try to keep Microsoft in the courts all the time would be better off if they spent their time trying to develop some new & innovative systems & playing the game fairly. We have never heard of any company that gives other companies the secrets of their business practices & allows them access to their innovative methods which (sad to say) earn money for THEM, and lessen the profits of their competitors, HAVE YOU? AND---We still don't understand how the states got involved and were even given monetary settlements for their supposed abuse at the hands of Microsoft. We hope the settlement with the 9 states ends this case. There has been an exorbitant amount of money spent on this case & the time expended by high paid, valuable employees of the Justice Department could be better spent bringing to justice REAL CRIMINALS such as terrorists, murderers, rapists, gangsters, robbers, etc,etc,etc. PLEASE CLOSE THE CASE!!!

BILLY & ELIZABETH GATES